

BEFORE THE
POSTAL RATE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20268

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In the Matter of:

Pierceville IN 47039
Post Office State ZIP Code

Docket No: ~~POSTAL REGULATORY~~
~~COMMISSION~~
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

James W. Conins, Petitioner(s)

PARTICIPANT STATEMENT

1. Petitioner(s) are appealing the Postal Service's Final Determination concerning the Pierceville, IN post office. The Final Determination was posted December 2011 (date)

2. In accordance with applicable law, 39 U.S.C. § 404(d)(5), the Petitioner(s) request the Postal Regulatory Commission to review the Postal Service's determination on the basis of the record before the Postal Service in the making of the determination.

3. Petitioners: Please set out below the reasons why you believe the Postal Service's Final Determination should be reversed and returned to the Postal Service for further consideration. (See pages of the Instructions for an outline of the kinds of reasons the law requires us to consider.) Please be as specific as possible. Please continue on additional paper if you need more space and attach the additional page(s) to this form.

I appeal the USPS decision to close the Pierceville, IN Post Office on the basis that the closing is arbitrary, capricious, and not in accordance with the law.

The law as I understand it says a Post Office may not be closed for cost reasons only, yet that is the only reason this office is scheduled to close. USPS says it will save transportation expenses if this office is closed, this office is on the route between two other offices, is about 40 yard off of that highway and, a stop takes about 2 minutes. Furthermore the USPS states that we can get all of the services from a rural carrier that we now get; that is simply false.

There are several elderly and infirmed patrons that will have to walk one hundred yards or more to their rural mail box on county roads that are not cleaned well of ice and snow. At the Pierceville Office the mail can be, and is delivered to their cars in order to reduce the danger of a fall or injury. And, when I need interaction with my rural carrier, I must lie in wait for him to arrive. He has a three hour window from day to day. Between 2 and 5 pm. I can get the service I need at Pierceville - whenever I get there. So far we have covered mistatement of facts on transportation expense and service, now let us cover personell issues. USPS keeps telling us that so far all closings have been covered by attrition. Attrition can not get to their stated goal of a fifty percent reduction in employees. Grade school arithmetic will disprove that statement. This Post Master and many others are in the mid fifties age group, some older. Any one who watches the evening news, or reads the newspaper will soon find an article that illustrates this age group has the most difficulty in finding new employment. Many never do. It seems to me that we will nearly pay as much in unemployment and other assistance as we will if we keep them employed and enjoy the services they provide.

It is plain to me that USPS makes material misstatements of fact, and is over zealous in its computation of savings generated from this and the other closings. And they are just wrong about the quality of service we can obtain from a rural carrier. I like my carrier, but he can not do for me what the Pierceville Post Office does. He might like to, but he can't.

James W Combs